



A representative of DND CAT gives Murray Gibson (right), Associate Laboratory Director for the APS, an explanation of his chemical handling procedures.

Dr. Gibson Reviews Chemical Management System at the APS

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Working with an efficient Chemical Management System(CMS), APS personnel are assured compliance with Environmental, Safety and Health standards through an accurate inventory of chemicals. Such a system contributes to a professional work environment and one worth the recognition of the “Walkabout for APS Safety Excellence.” These walkabouts are performed monthly by Murray Gibson, Associate Laboratory Director – Advanced Photon Source (APS).

Dr. Gibson recently visited the Dow Northwestern Dupont (DND) and the Center for Real Time X-Ray Studies (MHATT) Collaborative Access Teams (CATs) at the APS where he found individuals ready to discuss how they steward their chemical inventory and waste disposal processes.

In an effort to support staff and researchers, the APS has implemented a dynamic chemical inventory control and waste management oversight process. Each chemical storage site and satellite waste accumulation area throughout the APS is visited periodically to assure compliance with chemical management requirements. The APS also provides technical support to the research community by assisting in the evaluation of proposed chemical purchases, transportation, storage and waste disposal.



During the walkabout, Eric Dufresne (MHATT-CAT) and Jeff Alicz (XFD) explained the empty container barcode board to Dr. Gibson. This is the notification mechanism to remove depleted chemicals from the CMS inventory. Dr. Dufresne commented during the walkabout that he was initially hesitant to complete an ANL Chemical Waste Disposal Form, but, once he made the decision to put “pen-to-paper” he found the process was not as onerous as he

had expected.

DND-CAT's Mike Guise, who accesses the CMS frequently, finds the system easy to navigate. His only concern is that of acquiring the proper description of chemical waste that transient users propose to leave behind for disposal following the completion of their beamtime.

The focus of this month's "Walkabout for APS Safety Excellence" was chosen in conjunction with Jeff Alicz's (APS Chemical Hygiene Officer) efforts in developing waste disposal estimates. In doing so, a query has gone out to all past waste generators for their projection of chemical waste that will be generated and disposed of for the balance of FY 2004 and throughout FY 2005.

According to Dr. Gibson, conducting periodic facility inspections and evaluations of laboratory activities ensures compliance with laboratory policies and operating procedures, as well as, providing a forum to identify opportunities for improvement. Through this philosophy, the APS has met or exceeded its performance objectives since operations began in 1996.

The July walkabout will focus on NEPA Compliance.